

PEER ADVOCATES: CULTURAL & SYSTEM NAVIGATORS IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

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DEFINING PEER ADVOCACY

- Peer Advocacy looks different
 - Mutual support
 - Peer run groups
 - Peer support
- Our Values and Mission
 - How we define the our Advocates



BRIEF HISTORY OF PEER ADVOCACY

- Mental health movement was a political advocacy, group and individual empowerment phenomenon
 - Psychiatric patients discharged from psychiatric hospitals in 1970s
 - In response people organized- self help groups & mutual support groups thus forming a consumer / survivor movement
 - 1990s- Consumer Operated Service Programs (COSP) “ Nothing About Us, Without Us”
 - 21st century brought about an increase in peer support services
 - Formalize training for Peer Support specialists

PEER ADVOCACY IN SKID ROW

- Brief history of Skid Row
- Peer Advocacy in Skid Row today



THE PRIORITIZATION PROJECT



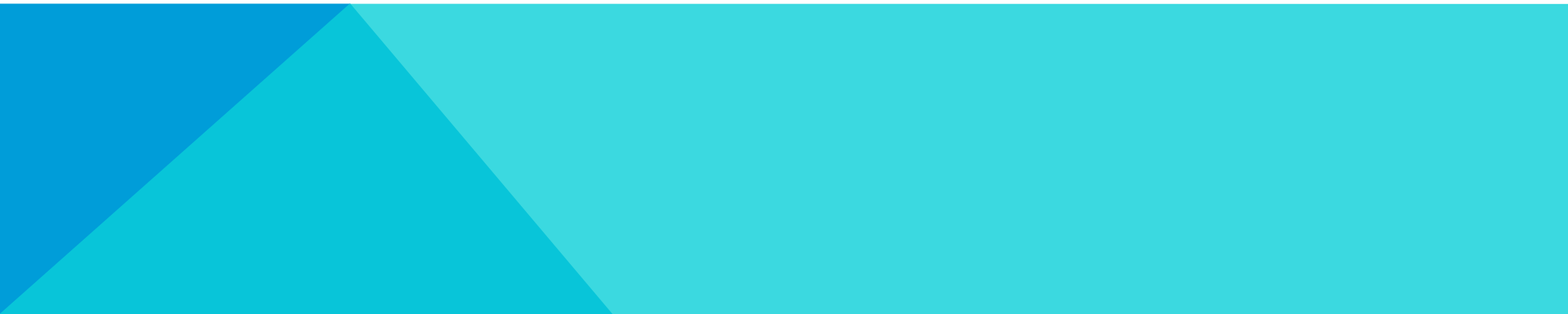
- Critical time intervention
 - The first 90 days
- Housing the most vulnerable
- Peer Advocate component
 - The Peer Advocate Role

CULTURAL & SYSTEM NAVIGATORS

- Peer theory- Mead
- Individual Empowerment Theory- Keiffer
- Recovery approach

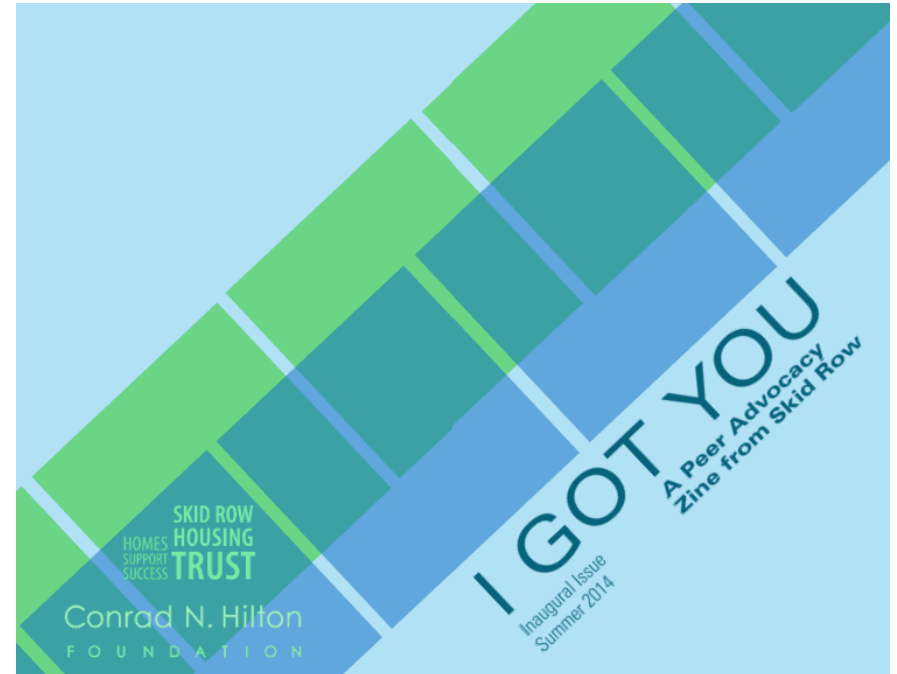


Anthony will share his narrative and experiences as a Peer Advocate . . .



THE EXPANSION

- Expanded Advocate team
- Re-engage residents who have been housed
- Provide Peer Advocate Groups
- Worked on a Peer Advocate Zine - “I Got You”
- Micro-documentary – “I got you- Peer Advocate Perspectives”
- Peer Advocate training manual



**“LOVE BEGINS AT HOME,
IT IS NOT HOW MUCH WE DO . . .
BUT HOW MUCH LOVE WE PUT INTO THAT
ACTION.” - MOTHER TERESA**



**THANK YOU TO THE CONRAD
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